

Mass times and intentions: 25th April – 03rd May 2026

Saturday	25	FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	26	11.30 – Stella Housden RIP
Monday	27	NO MASS
Tuesday	28	Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Easter 10.00 – Thomas O’Farrell RIP
Wednesday	29	St Catherine of Siena 10.00 – K. J. Sebastian RIP
Thursday	30	Thursday of the Fourth Week of Easter 10.00 – McDowell Family
Friday	01	St Joseph the Worker 10.00 – Doris D’Souza RIP
Saturday	02	St Athanasius 10.00 – Oliver McDowell
		FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 18.00 – Anne Kelly
Sunday	03	11.30 – The People of the Parish

Tuesday to Saturday, after the Holy Mass,
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Holy Rosary

Mass Intentions / Offerings: Special envelopes are available at the back of Church. If you would like Mass offered on a particular date or anniversary, please let the Parish Priest know well in advance – the sooner the better. Thank you for your co-operation.

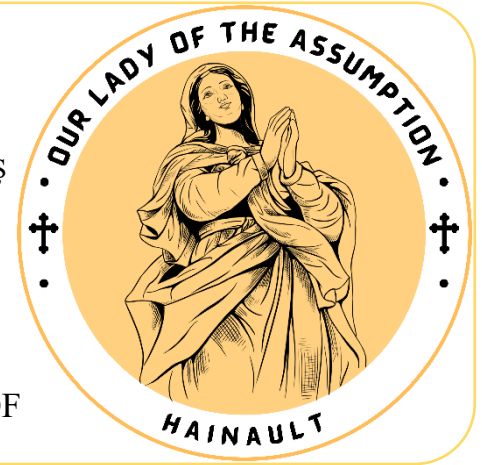
Mass Attendance last weekend: 279

Offertory Collection last weekend: £ 670.33

Please consider SUPPORTING our Parish with a donation		
Donate by bank transfer or standing order:	Scan to donate:	Donate via the Parish website:
Account Name: Catholic Church Hainault The Assumption Sort Code: 40-13-22 Account Number: 31019244		https://hainault.org.uk/donations/
Please sign up to Gift Aid if you are a UK tax payer.		
Gift Aid allows the parish to receive an extra 25p for every £1 you donate - at no additional cost to you		

**CATHOLIC PARISH
OF THE DIOCESE OF BRENTWOOD**

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – 26th April 2026

Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass
383 – Lord, Jesus Christ (v. 1, 2, 3)

Responsorial Psalm:

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

678 – Take our bread, we ask you

706 – The Lord’s my shepherd, I’ll not want

289 – I will be with you wherever you go

187 – The Servant King

Dear brothers and sisters,

On this Sunday of the Good Shepherd, we are not invited to learn something complicated, but to let ourselves be touched. To let ourselves be touched by a simple and deep truth: we are loved, we are sought, we are guided.

Sometimes our life does not feel like a peaceful pasture. Sometimes it feels like a road full of worries, questions, and tiredness. There are days when the heart is calm, but there are also days when we feel lost, when we do not know where we are going, when we feel we have no direction.

And into this reality of our life, Jesus says: “I am the gate.”

He does not say, “Find your own way.” He does not say, “Manage on your own.” He says, “I am.” As if he is telling us: “If you do not know where to go, come to me. If you are tired, come to me. If you are wounded, come to me.”

It is such a gentle invitation, and yet so deep.

And then he says: “I have come that you may have life.” Not just to exist, not just to go through the days, not just to carry burdens... but to have life. A life that can be felt. A life that warms the heart. A life that brings peace even in the middle of restlessness.

And yet, why do we not always feel this life?

Because we listen to other voices. The voice that reminds us of our mistakes. The voice that tells us we are not enough. The voice that makes us afraid of the future. And slowly, these voices become louder than the truth.

But the voice of Jesus is different. It does not shout. It does not press us down. It does not wound. It comes quietly and says: “Do not be afraid. I am with you.”

Think of a moment when life was hard... and someone stayed close to you. Maybe they did not say many words, maybe they could not fix everything, but their presence brought peace. You felt you were not alone.

That is how Jesus is. He does not promise a life without a cross, but he promises that we will never carry it alone. And maybe this is the greatest gift: his presence.

The Gospel says that the sheep know his voice. Not because they are perfect, not because they never go astray, but because they stay close. Because they listen. Because little by little they learn the difference between noise and truth.

And on this Sunday, when we also pray for vocations, we are reminded that every calling begins with a heart that listens. God does not speak only to a few chosen people. God speaks to everyone. But not everyone finds the silence to listen.

Maybe a young person feels a call and is afraid. Maybe they do not understand everything. But God does not ask us to understand everything. He asks only for one step. A simple “yes,” said with trust.

And in truth, each one of us has a calling. A call to love more. A call to forgive. A call to be patient. A call to be a light for others.

Dear brothers and sisters, maybe today we do not need many explanations. Maybe we only need to remember this: We are not lost. We are not forgotten. We are not alone.

There is Someone who knows us by name. There is Someone who looks for us when we are lost. There is Someone who walks with us, even when we do not see him.

And if today we could say just one prayer, let it be simple and from the heart: “Lord, stay with me. Help me to hear your voice.”

Because when we begin to listen to God, life does not always become easier, but it becomes brighter. The heart is no longer so heavy. The road is no longer so lonely.

And in the end, let us keep this truth in our hearts, a truth that never changes: Jesus is alive. Jesus is here. Jesus loves us. And where he is, there is always a way. There is always hope. There is always life.

Amen.

• Refreshments after Sunday Mass

I would like to invite you to join us for refreshments after the Sunday Mass in the Parish Hall. Please join us for a cup of tea or coffee, some biscuits and a chance to meet, socialise and get to know each other.

• Sacrament of Reconciliation

Confession is available every Saturday during Adoration and Holy Rosary and on request on weekdays during Adoration and Holy Rosary after the morning Mass.

• Keeping Our Parish Safe – Safeguarding Update

Parish Safeguarding Representatives (PSRs) are volunteers who work closely with the Parish Priest to support and promote safeguarding within the parish community. They play an important role in raising awareness and helping to ensure that our parish remains a safe and welcoming place for everyone.

As you may know, *Shirley Ruiz* and *Christine Muirden* are our Parish Safeguarding Representatives.

All adult parish volunteers are required to complete Level 1 safeguarding training as a minimum. Shirley and/or Christine will be contacting all parish volunteers with further details. Please complete the training and send them a copy of your certificate.

If you lead a group, please ensure that all members of your group are aware of and comply with the training requirements.

If you have any questions, please contact Shirley or Christine, or email safeguarding-hainault@brcdt.org. Thank you for your cooperation.

• Looking for a Special Gift?

As we approach the celebrations of First Holy Communion and Confirmation in our parish, why not visit our Repository at the back of the church?

You will find a thoughtful selection of cards and gifts for these important moments, as well as for many other occasions.

• Diocesan Second Collection

After both Masses this weekend, there will be a Diocesan second collection for the Promotion of Vocations. Thank you for your generosity.